

ABSTRACT

A controllable optical switching module (OSM) has at least N optical inputs ($i1$ to iN) and at least N optical outputs ($e1$ to eN) for selectively switching through optical signals ($os1$ to osN), with a respective optical signal ($os1$ to osN) being able to be switched through from an optical input ($i1$ to iN) via a respective switching point (SP) in a switching matrix (SM) to an optical output ($e1$ to eN) using a control unit (CU). The order of the arrangement of the optical inputs ($i1$ to iN) is determined by virtue of the respective attenuation ($A1$ to AN) produced when the optical signals ($os1$ to osN) are switched through from an optical input ($i1$ to iN) via a switching point (SP) to an optical output ($e1$ to eN) increasing or decreasing from the first to the Nth optical input ($i1$ to iN).